



May 9, 2005

## **FOUR YEARS IN PERSPECTIVE**

Four Years Ago Today, President Bush Sent His First Judicial Nominations to the Senate. Some Still Wait for a Vote

**Four Years Ago, President Bush Nominated Eleven Judges And Asked Lawmakers To “Rise Above The Bitterness Of The Past.”** “President Bush sent 11 federal judicial nominations to the Senate on Wednesday with a plea for lawmakers to ‘rise above the bitterness of the past’ and accept his choices, the first of more than 100 he will make.” (Ron Hutcheson, “Bush Sends Senate Choices For Judges In First Selections, President Seeks To Sidestep Controversy,” *The Miami Herald*, May 10, 2001)

**While Democrats “Held Their Fire,” From Day One Liberal Interest Groups Targeted The Nominees For “Difficult Confirmation Hearings.”** “Senate Democrats held their fire on the 11 nominees, but liberal interest groups said a few of Bush’s most conservative choices could face difficult confirmation hearings. The President sought to avoid a showdown over his first judicial slate by steering away from more controversial picks - at least for now.” (Ron Hutcheson, “Bush Sends Senate Choices for Judges in First Selections, President Seeks To Sidestep Controversy,” *The Miami Herald*, May 10, 2001)

## **FOR FOUR YEARS OR 1,461 DAYS, PRISCILLA OWEN HAS WAITED FOR A STRAIGHT UP-OR-DOWN VOTE ON THE SENATE FLOOR**

**In May 2001, Texas Supreme Court Justice Priscilla Owen Was Nominated By President Bush To The 5<sup>th</sup> U.S. Circuit Court Of Appeals.** “Ten of the 11 appellate court nominees Bush announced, including seven from states with no Democratic senators, have been cleared by their home state senators. Included on the list is Texas Supreme Court Justice Priscilla Owen, a Republican picked for the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans.” (Ken Herman, “President Selects First Slate Of Judges,” *Austin American-Statesman*, May 10, 2001)

*Consider What Took Less Time Than Four Years...*

**THE CIVIL WAR**

**It Took Fewer Days To Fight The Civil War Than It Has Taken For Priscilla Owen To Receive An Up-Or-Down Vote In The Senate.** A total of 1,458 days passed from the moment Confederate troops fired upon Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861 until General Robert E. Lee's surrender at Appomattox Courthouse on April 9, 1865. This total is three days fewer than Priscilla Owen has waited for an up-or-down floor vote in the U.S. Senate. (Time Line Of The Civil War, <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/cwphtml/tl1861.html>; <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/cwphtml/tl1865.html>, Accessed April 19, 2005)

## WINNING THE SECOND WORLD WAR

**It Took Fewer Days For America To Defeat Japan And Germany During World War II Than It Has Taken The Senate To Give Priscilla Owen An Up-Or-Down Vote.** A total of 1,346 days passed from the moment the Japanese Navy attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 until Japan surrendered to the United States on August 14, 1945. This total is 115 days fewer than Priscilla Owen has waited for an up-or-down floor vote in the Senate. The total time America fought Nazi Germany was 218 days fewer than Owen has waited for a vote on the Senate floor. Between the time Germany declared war on the U.S. on December 11, 1941 and the day Germany signed unconditional surrender terms on May 7, 1945, 1,243 days elapsed. (The History Place, <http://www.historyplace.com/unitedstates/pacificwar/timeline.htm#1945>, Accessed April 19, 2005; OnWar.com Website, <http://www.onwar.com/chrono/1941/dec41/f11dec41.htm>, Accessed May 7, 2005; Congress; Wikipedia Website, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/May\\_7](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/May_7), Accessed May 7, 2005)

## THE PRODUCTION OF SEVEN OF SHAKESPEARE'S PLAYS

**Seven Plays By William Shakespeare—including Henry V, Julius Caesar, Twelfth Night And Hamlet—Were First Performed In Less Time Than It Has Taken Priscilla Owen To Receive An Up-Or-Down Vote In The Senate.** Between late 1598 and 1601, seven major plays by William Shakespeare—Much Ado About Nothing; Henry V; Julius Caesar; As You Like It; Twelfth Night; Hamlet; and The Merry Wives of Windsor 1602—were first performed. This period of time is less than the four years Priscilla Owen has waited for an up-or-down floor vote in the U.S. Senate. (Shakespeare Online, "Play Chronology," [www.shakespeare-online.com/keydates/playchron.html](http://www.shakespeare-online.com/keydates/playchron.html), Accessed April 18, 2005)

## CONSTRUCTING THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING—THREE TIMES!

**Crews Could Have Constructed Three Separate Versions Of The Empire State Building In The Time Priscilla Owen Has Waited To Receive An Up-Or-Down Vote In The Senate.** Construction of the Empire State Building began in March of 1930 and was completed 14 months later in May, 1931. Priscilla Owen has waited 48 months for an up-or-down floor vote in the U.S. Senate. At the rate of 1930s construction, building crews would finished the Empire State Building almost three and a half times. (The Empire State Building History And Facts, <http://wonderclub.com/WorldWonders/EmpireHistory.html>, Accessed April 18, 2005)

## MIKE TYSON'S REIGN AS WORLD HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION

**Boxer Mike Tyson Was The Heavyweight Champion For A Shorter Period Of Time Than It Has Taken The Senate To Give Priscilla Owen An Up-Or-Down Vote.** Boxer Mike Tyson took the heavyweight title with a win over Trevor Berbick on November 22, 1986 and continued his reign for 1,177 days, until James “Buster” Douglas defeated Tyson on February 11, 1990. Tyson held the title 284 fewer days than Priscilla Owen has waited for an up-or-down floor vote in the U.S. Senate. (Mike Tyson’s Boxing Career, [http://www.localcolorart.com/search/encyclopedia/Mike\\_Tyson/#Boxing\\_career](http://www.localcolorart.com/search/encyclopedia/Mike_Tyson/#Boxing_career), Accessed April 19, 2005)

### **BUILDING YANKEE STADIUM—FIVE TIMES!**

**During The Time That Priscilla Owen Has Waited For An Up-Or-Down Confirmation Vote In The Senate, Yankee Stadium Could Have Been Built Five Separate Times.** The construction contract to build Yankee Stadium was awarded to New York’s White Construction Co. on May 5, 1922 with the edict that the job must be completed “at a definite price” (\$2.5-million) and by Opening Day 1923. It was completed in only 284 working days and Yankee Stadium was ready for its inaugural game on April 18, 1923 vs. the Boston Red Sox. (Yankee Stadium History Website, [http://newyork.yankees.mlb.com/NASApp/mlb/nyy/ballpark/stadium\\_history.jsp](http://newyork.yankees.mlb.com/NASApp/mlb/nyy/ballpark/stadium_history.jsp), Accessed April 26, 2005)